

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
OF THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION  
REGULATION SUBCOMMITTEE B**

**March 7, 2006**

**The Rhode Island Ethics Commission Regulation Subcommittee B held its 3rd meeting following the conclusion of the regularly scheduled full Ethics Commission meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at the Rhode Island Ethics Commission conference room, located on the 8th floor of 40 Fountain Street, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the notice published at the Commission Headquarters and at the State House Library.**

**The following subcommittee members were present:**

**Barbara Binder, Vice Chair Richard E. Kirby\***

**George E. Weavill, Jr., Secretary James C. Segovis**

**Also present was Staff Attorney Macall Robertson. Commission Executive Director Kent A. Willever was present for part of the meeting.**

**At approximately 11:35 a.m., Vice Chair Binder opened the meeting.**

**Commissioner Weavill distributed a document to the Commission**

and staff listing seven bullet points for discussion of revolving door. The subcommittee members discussed these points. The members also considered whether to extend the waiting period in section 5(e) to more than one year for certain public positions. The members requested that the Staff obtain the Rhode Island Supreme Court case examining the one-year time period.

Expanding upon this proposal, the members discussed whether to create a “two-tier” standard under section 5(e) that would set a longer waiting period for upper level officials in the executive and legislative branches while maintaining the current one year time period for all other officials. Commissioner Binder recommended setting stricter standards for department directors and chief policy makers in the executive branch. Commissioner Kirby suggested identifying certain positions or focusing on certain job authorities. Commissioner Weavill noted that it may be difficult to draft such language and that officials will try to minimize their responsibilities to the Commission. The members then considered expanding section 5(e)’s prohibitions to include any agency with which an official had “substantive involvement” or “substantive interactions” during their public employment.

\* At approximately 12:00 p.m., Executive Director Kent Willever arrived.

At the request of the Commission, Executive Director Kent Willever

shared his knowledge of the federal revolving door requirements. He briefly discussed his work on Mayor Cicilline's Ethics Task Force. The members agreed by consensus to apply the prohibitions contained in sections 5(n) and 5(o), and Regulation 5007 to municipalities.

The members then tasked the Staff with starting to draft language to amend section 5(e) to prohibit an official from appearing before any agency with which the official had "substantive involvement" or "substantive interactions" while holding their public position and for a period of one year after leaving their position. The members also expressed an interest in amending section 5(e) to cover an official's appearance before a subsidiary agency whose members the official appoints.

\* At approximately 12:15 a.m., Commissioner Kirby left the meeting.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Weavill, duly seconded by Commissioner Segovis, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the Open Session meeting of the Ethics Commission Regulation Subcommittee B held on March 7, 2006.

**AYES:** Barbara Binder, George E. Weavill, Jr., and James C. Segovis.

**The subcommittee agreed to next meet following the Ethics Commission's meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2006.**

**By consensus, the subcommittee meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Macall S. Robertson**  
**Staff Attorney**